CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

My Daughters?

I have two little daughters,
One is standing by my side,
And I look upon her beauty
With all a mother's pride.

Blue eyes, full of love's pleading,
Ringlets of sunny gold,
Lips like an opening rosebud;
Then half her charms untold.

I have another daughter,
But know not how she seems,
For she comes no more to greet me,
Save in my happy dreams.

One morn the Saviour took her
In his loving arms away;
But she is still my daughter.
And we shall meet some day.

So on this peaceful Sabbath,
One child's fair face I see;
But one is safe with Jesus.
And it is well with me.

—*S. T. Walker.*

Study and Smoke.

One of the professors of the Polytechnic School of Paris, inquired into the habits of the 160 students there, and then made a comparison between their devotions to study and to smoke. He found that 102 were smokers, and 58 never used, or they said they never used, the noxious weed. He then found that in each grade of the school the students who did not smoke outranked those who did smoke, and that the scholarship of the smokers steadily deteriorated as the smoking continued. On account of several trustworthy reports of such a nature, the minister of public instruction in France issued a circular to the directors of colleges and schools, forbidding tobacco to students, as injurious to physical and intellectual development. The Catholic Guardian is authority for the statement that the youth of Catholic colleges are not allowed to use tobacco in any way; and to this fact is attributed much of their proficiency in mathematics, and the other branches which wear more particularly on the intellect than some others.—CHRISTIAN UNION.

The First Oath.

It is a sad thing that where light abounds, there sin also abounds, and the natural wickedness of the human heart comes out most fully where the greatest opportunities are enjoyed, and the greatest blessings bestowed. Among heathen nations many gods are worshiped with great reverence and respect, but among Christians, men seem utterly godless, Christless, wicked and defiant.

It is related by Dr. Scudder that on his return from his mission in India, after a long absence, he was standing on the deck of a steamer with his son, a youth, when he heard a gentleman using loud and profane language. "See, friend," said the doctor, accosting the swearer, "this boy, my son, was born and brought up in a heathen country, and a land of Pagan idolatry; but in all his life he never heard a man blaspheme his Maker until now." The man colored, blurted out an apology, and looked not a little ashamed of himself.

We hope our readers will improve their privileges, and never let it be said that they, living under the light of the gospel, fall into sins of which even the heathen are not guilty, "for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."—SEL.

Moscow's Great Cathedral.

What must, without doubt, be conceded as the most magnificent church edifice in the world is the great cathedral at Moscow, "The Church of St. Saviour," recently completed there.

The foundations of the church are of English granite, and the whole edifice is faced with marble, the door being of bronze, ornamented with Biblical subjects, and lined with oak. The principal entrance measures 30 feet high by 18 feet broad, and the two doors weigh 13 tons, the total cost of all the doors being $350,000. This building is erected in the form of a Greek cross, three of the broad ends of which form the corridors, lower and upper, surrounding three sids of, and open to, the center square, or temple proper, while the fourth end is occupied by the altar and its appurtenances.

The total cost of all the marble in the building exceeded $2,000,000. Lifting one's eyes, the galleries are seen to contain 36 windows, and the cupola 16, all of which are double, with frames of bronze. Round the cupola is one row of 640 candelabra, placed there at a cost of $120,000, with a second row of $600, costing an additional $60,000. There are 4 lustres weighing 4 tons each, and the total number of candles to be lighted throughout the building is upward of 3,000. At the top of the cupola is a painting by Professor Markoff, representing in colossal proportions the first person of the blessed Trinity as an old man with the infant Jesus. The height of the figure is 49 feet, the length of the face 7 feet, and the height of the infant 21 feet. Also, below the cupola are a number of figures of Apostles and Fathers, each 21 feet high. Great expense has, of course, been lavished on the eastern end of the church. The cost of materials and workmanship for the altar space, apart from the icons of sacred pictures, amounted to $150,000. In this part of the church are some of its most remarkable paintings, most, if not all, by Russian artists. The structure of the altar screen is a departure from the traditional Russian type, for instead of a tall, ugly blank partition, half or two-thirds of the height of the church, hiding the eastern end, the screen of St. Saviour's is low and elegant, and throws open, except for a few feet above the floor, the whole of the sanctuary. This princly cathedral was erected at a cost of $12,000,000, and is said to be capable of accommodating 10,000 worshipers, and which from its first conception has been built in a single lifetime.

—*Brooklyn Magazine for June.*

The Brethren Annual.

The Brethren Annual for 1886, contains besides the usual calendar, a Biography of Alexander Mack, and Daniel P. Sayler, author of the "Manditory Resolution," with portrait, a short history of the Brethren Church, by J. B. Wampler, School House No. 7 and the Arnold's Grove Conference, by H. R. Holsinger and J. H. Worst, with engraving of the school house, list of ministers of the Brethren Church important events of the year, ending Oct. 1st, 1885, reports from churches, and interesting miscellaneous matter. It is printed on good, heavy paper, nicely bound. It makes a document that every member of the Brethren Church will want to preserve.
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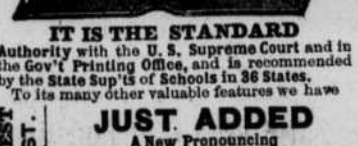

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